

Inspection and Evaluation Committee

President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency

January 2002

Inspection and Evaluation Committee Members

JOHNNIE FRAZIER
Commerce, Chair
JANET REHNQUIST
HHS
CLARK KENT ERVIN
State
GORDON HEDDELL
Labor
CHRISTINE BOESZ
NSF
GLENN FINE
Justice
RICHARD GRIFFIN
VA
PATRICK MCFARLAND
OPM
STEPHEN SMITH
FCA
MARTIN DICKMAN
RRB

I&E Roundtable - January Meeting

January 31, 2002 — 9:30 a.m.-12:00 noon
Department of Commerce
Office of Inspector General
14th Street & Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 3884
Herbert C. Hoover Bldg.

I&E CHAIR ADDRESSES ROUNDTABLE



Inspector General Johnnie Frazier, Chair of the PCIE's Inspection and Evaluation Committee, spoke about his plans to continue meeting with new and incumbent Inspectors General to share his experiences with inspections and evaluations. Seminal points he offered for establishing inspection and evaluation units were:

- ✓ Get effective, experienced leaders.
- ✓ Hire talented staff with diverse experience.
- ✓ Be bold in the selection of and approach to your work.
- ✓ Cooperate with audits and investigations.
- ✓ Make your work products more readable and visually appealing.
- ✓ Participate in peer professional groups, especially the Roundtable.
- ✓ Have fun!

Johnnie introduced Stephen Smith, Farm Credit Administration IG and I&E Committee member, thanking him for attending. Johnnie also noted with appreciation the tireless leadership efforts of George Grob and Debbie Holmes in making the January I&E Roundtable so successful. A testament to that success: the January

meeting hosted 39 persons, a record for Roundtable attendance.

Agencies in Attendance

Commerce	Education	EEOC
Energy	FCA	FDIC
FEMA	HHS	Interior
Justice	Labor	NASA
NEA	NRC	SBA
SSA	State	DOT
Treasury	USAID	VA

Johnnie gave special thanks to Jill Gross, Commerce Assistant IG for Inspections and Program Evaluations, and her staff for hosting the January Roundtable.

Each attendee received a presentation package that included information about the Commerce OIG's inspections program. Also included in the packet was a color presentation on inspections programs throughout the IG community. (Johnnie gave the latter presentation to new IGs at a 1-day seminar in November 2001.) Copies of the presentation are available from Roundtable liaison Debbie or from Jill.



PROGRESS REPORT ON I&E ROUNDTABLE PROJECTS

At the January meeting, I&E Roundtable Chair George Grob asked Roundtable members to report on the progress of ongoing pro-

jects. The **Purchase Card** project was discussed by Brent Weston and Gerard Fahy from the Department of Education OIG Analysis and Inspection Service, which has the lead on this project. Gerard also distributed a draft "how-to" guide for other offices to use in examining their purchase card process. Comments are due February 15. Send them to Gerard Fahy (e-mail: gerard.fahy@ed.gov; fax: 202-401-4811; voice: 202-205-8428). To receive a copy, call or e-mail Gerard. A revised draft will be shared with the PCIE Inspection and Evaluation Committee for its review and input.

A report on the **Travel Cards** project was presented by Dennis Raymond, Department of Labor OIG Division of Program Evaluations. Dennis' office has taken the lead on this project and is currently completing its in-house report. Once it is completed, that office may compile information from other OIG offices that have done similar work.

Roundtable Training

Debbie Holmes announced an upcoming writing course offered by HHS to its new staff. Three slots were made available to Roundtable-member OIGs. As in the past when HHS OIG has offered training

opportunities, there was an overwhelming response, and the three available openings went quickly to the first to respond to Debbie's e-mail. Those registered for the class have received all necessary information.

Danny Athanasaw, Acting Director for the IG Auditor Training Institute, discussed the pending relocation of IGATI to Rosslyn, VA, in June/July 2002. IGATI will have three classrooms at this new location. A revised course schedule will be available at <http://www.igati.org/> in the near future. Because there's a strong demand, IGATI will sponsor a writing class on March 4-5, 2002. See their web site for more information or call Danny at 703-805-4511 (e-mail: athanasawd@oig.treas.gov).

Other News

Help is needed to build the PCIE Inspection and Evaluation Committee web site.

George asked whether anyone was willing to assist in setting up a more comprehensive web site for the Committee and the Roundtable. Interested? Contact Debbie Holmes at 202-619-2085. The current site is <http://www.ignnet.gov/pande/iande.html>.

GAO reassesses the independence standard for auditors.

George Grob distributed copies of the GAO press release "Government Auditing Standards: Amendment No. 3, Independence," issued January 25, 2002, announcing pending changes in Yellow Book standards regarding auditor independence. George asked members to read the press release and be prepared to discuss it at a future Roundtable meeting. The release is available at <http://www.gao.gov/>. Under Other Publications, select

"The Yellow Book." In that page click on [GAO/A-GAGAS-3](#).

Government-wide evaluator's forum scheduled for February 28.

Adam Silverman, Department of Treasury OIG Office of Evaluations, told members about this forum, which was started at GAO 4 or 5 years ago. Executive branch evaluation offices are now hosting meetings; the next is scheduled for February 28 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the American Bar Association building, 740 15th Street, NW (202-927-5766). Adam invited Roundtable members to attend.

OIG Homeland Security Efforts: Bioterrorism

Roundtable members shared work under way or planned regarding bioterrorism concerns stemming from the September 11 terrorist attacks. If you were unable to attend this meeting and would like to discuss your project with other offices that may be doing similar work, e-mail the information you'd like to share to Debbie Holmes.

For further information on any item contained in this summary, please contact:

Deborah Holmes
202-619-2085
dholmes@oig.hhs.gov



Next Roundtable Meeting

The next meeting of the Inspection and Evaluation Roundtable will be March 28, 2002, at the Department of Veterans Affairs OIG. Further details will be sent soon.